

ANS Correspondence

Smith, David Eugene, Prof.

1920-1928

[Teacher's College.

Columbia University]

cross-reference from original folder.)

see Newton Mesa

December 2nd, 1920

Professor David Eugene Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University, N.Y.

Dear Professor Smith:

Mr. Newell has just handed me the two pamphlets relating to the Portrait Medals of Sir Isaac Newton, which you have so kindly presented for our library. Thank you very much.

Mr. Newell has also told me that you have consented to speak to us at one of our evening meetings. These meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, and because the January meeting will probably occur during holiday vacation, I presume that a later meeting would be more convenient to you. Would the February 7th meeting be satisfactory? If so, would you kindly let me know your subject?

You will, of course, realize that we shall be only too glad to aid you in any way that is possible in presenting your material. We have a reflectorscope in which coins can be shown directly, as well as slides.

Have you seen a copy of Barnard's "The Casting Counter and the Counting Board"? I am sure you will be interested to see our copy if you have not.

Very respectfully yours,

SPN/E  
Enc.

Secretary

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

December 3, 1920

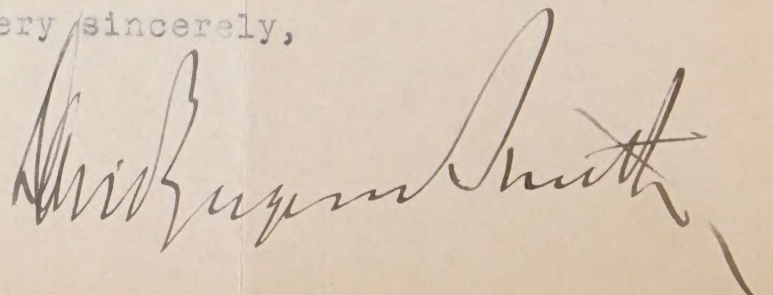
Sydney P. Noe, Esq.,  
The American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Noe:

It was very kind of you to ask me to speak on February 7th. Unfortunately, I am likely to be out of town that week. I shall, however, be glad to attend one or two meetings, see the nature of the audience, and then determine whether I feel that I have anything to present that is worth while. All that I know anything about, in the numismatic line, is related to mathematical medals, of which I have about one hundred and twenty. I am not at all certain that such a narrow phase of the subject would be of any interest.

I have known Professor Barnard's work for a long time, and in fact, I <sup>have</sup> had an extensive correspondence with him. It so happens that I was reading the proofsheets of a review of that work as your letter came in, and this review is soon to be published. Moreover, I have already published a brief review of the work for Science, and I am sending you herewith a copy of the same.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Eugene Smith", written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

December 4th, 1920

Professor David Eugene Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University  
New York City

Dear Professor Smith:

Thank you for your letter of December 3rd.  
I hope we shall be able to arrange an evening which  
will be convenient for you.

Would you consider a suggestion of speaking about the Casting-Counter in connection with counters? It seems to me that this would make an intensely interesting subject, and it would surely be one which would not require a great deal of work on your part to prepare.

Many of our members think of these pieces without any idea of their use, and I feel sure that you could exhibit a small collection of them in connection with your talk, and that we should all have an evening of great profit as well as pleasure.

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

December 10th, 1920

Professor David Eugene Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University, N.Y.

Dear Professor Smith:

I have been talking with Mr. Newell and he agrees with me that February 7th would be the best date for your lecture. Will you kindly let me know what the wording of ~~the title~~ is in order that I may prepare the cards in due time.

Mr. Newell feels that in your hands this will prove an attraction of more than usual drawing power and we are hoping that we may have a goodly audience for you.

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

December 14, 1920

Sydney P. Noe, Esq.,  
The American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

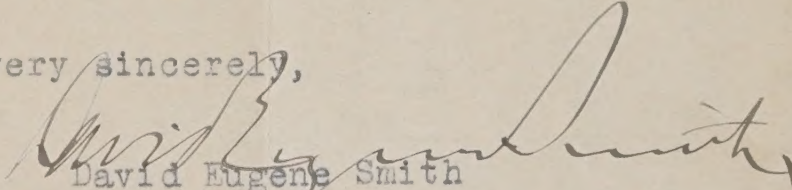
My dear Mr. Noe:

Replying to your letter of the 10th, I beg  
to suggest the following wording:

The Use of Counters or Jetons in Computation,  
with a Brief Statement concerning Mathematical  
Medals. Illustrated. By Professor David Eugene  
Smith, LL.D., Columbia University.

Kindly advise me if this meets with your ap-  
proval. In case it does, I shall arrange to bring up some  
stereopticon slides, together with a few counters and  
mathematical medals to be shown by the reflectoscope.  
I presume this is the best arrangement for exhibiting  
the material.

Yours very sincerely,

  
David Eugene Smith

January 6th, 1921

Professor David Eugene Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University, N.Y.

Dear Professor Smith:

I believe that I neglected to acknowledge your letter and to tell you that the wording of the subject of your lecture is entirely satisfactory.

With regard to your questions about our Reflectoscope, I would call to your attention that although we can show both slides and coins it is difficult to have the coins interspersed among the slides - that is, we can show the coins at one time and the slides at another, but the shifting of the object to the slide requires certain adjustments that take time and, therefore, make it inadvisable. If you will have this circumstance in mind when arranging your material, it will perhaps save you some annoyance.

Respectfully yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

January 8, 1931

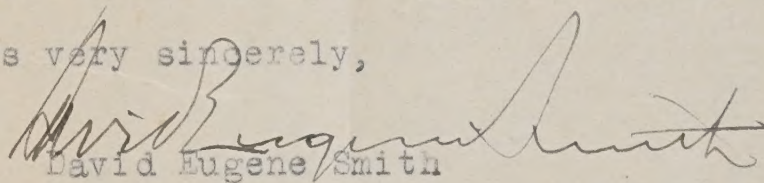
Sydney P. Noe, Esq.,  
156th St., and Broadway,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th.

In arranging the slides, I shall keep this matter in mind.

Yours very sincerely,

  
David Eugene Smith

Do you have a blackboard? If so, I  
might make some of the points  
more clear. It is not, however,  
necessary to go over if you  
do not already have one  
available.

January 28th, 1921.

Prof. David Eugene Smith,  
Teachers College,  
Columbia University,  
New York.

Dear Prof. Smith:-

I am enclosing herewith a number of cards for your lecture. If you will send me the addresses of those to whom you would like to have cards sent, I should be very glad to mail them immediately.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

January 29, 1921

Sydney P. Noe, Esq.,  
American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Replying to your letter of yesterday, I am  
sending you herewith a few names to whom it might be  
desirable to send cards for my address on February 7th.  
I don't imagine that any of these gentlemen would have  
time to come, but I shall be glad to have them notified.

The names are:

Dr. Thomas D. Wood,

Professor Henry Johnson,

Professor J. M. Gambrill,

Professor Gonzales Lodge, LL.D.,

Professor Paul Monroe, LL.D.,

Dr. C. T. McFarlane,

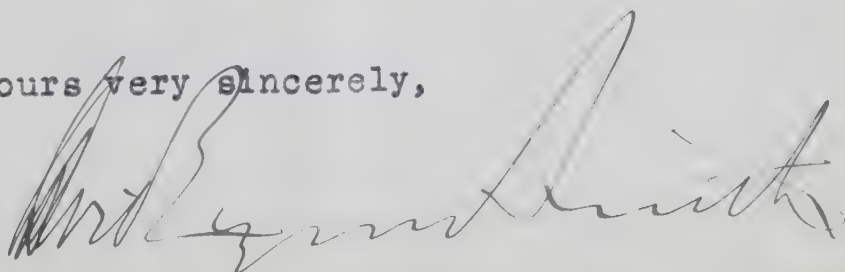
Professor C. B. Upton,

all of whom may be addressed at 525 W. 120th Street.

Also Professor Thomas S. Fiske, Columbia University,  
and George A. Plimpton, Esq., 70 Fifth Avenue.

I may have a few other names to suggest the latter  
part of the week.

Yours very sincerely,



Sent cards 1/29/21.

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

March 8, 1921

Mr. S. P. Noe,  
The American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I have not replied to the inclosed letter from  
Professor Barnard. Would you mind telling me what I  
should say to him with respect to the four books mentioned?

Yours very sincerely,

  
David Eugene Smith

Inclosure

March 9th, 1921

Professor David Greene Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University, New York

Dear Dr. Smith:

In response to your letter of March 8th and to the enquiry by Professor Barnard, I would rank the books about which you ask, as follows:

1. Dickeson - The Numismatic Manual. Very good for its time, but as it was published in 1859, now obsolete.
2. Loubat - Nummularia Historica of the United States. Still considered valuable, but not exhaustive. Many of the medals described are those issued at the mint; the quality leaves much to be desired.
3. Crosby - Early Coins of America. Has supplanted the Dickeson work, and is the best manual for the coins preceding 1793.
4. Betts - American Colonial Coins, illustrated by Contemporary Medals. A very careful compilation which is usually dependable.

As you will realize, the last two titles supplant the first two for the periods which are common to each - that is, Dickeson's Manual covers the entire coinage up to the date of its publication while Crosby's stops at 1793.

I trust that this will give you the information you desire, and with cordial greetings, I am to subscribe myself

Very respectfully yours,

SFR/E  
Enc.

Secretary

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

March 10, 1921

Sydney P. Noe, Esq.,  
American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Noe:

I am greatly obliged to you for your prompt  
and helpful reply to Professor Barnard's questions,  
and I am sure he will also be grateful.

I am going this afternoon to begin the making  
of some photographs looking to the little monograph which  
you and Mr. Newell so kindly asked me to prepare. I hope  
by mid-summer to have the material ready.

Yours very sincerely,

*David Eugene Smith*  
David Eugene Smith

April 12th, 1921

Professor David Eugene Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University  
New York

Dear Professor Smith:

Thank you for sending me Professor  
Barnard's very courteous note. I am  
very glad the information has proved of  
service to him. I am returning the let-  
ter as you may desire it for your files.

When your manuscript on Counters is  
ready, will you please communicate with  
Mr. Wood regarding it. I am planning to  
sail on April 23rd for several months  
abroad.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

April 18, 1921

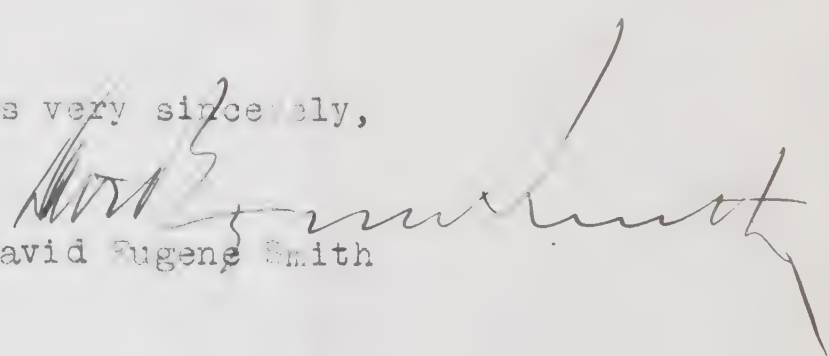
Sydney P. Noe, Esq.,  
American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I thought I might get the manuscript in your hands before you sail, and indeed, I told Mr. Newell that I might take it up this morning. It seemed to him, however, that it would be desirable to reproduce the Salamis Abacus, and so I am sending to Boston for my photograph of that piece. I shall therefore probably not be able to take the manuscript to Mr. Wood until next week.

I am leaving town for a week, and before going I wish you a bon voyage. I hope you will have a delightful stay in Europe.

Yours very sincerely,

  
David Eugene Smith

May 5th, 1921

Professor David Lewis Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University  
New York City

Dear Professor Smith:

I have read through your article for Linguistic  
Notes and found it of great interest.  
We hope to have it in the hands of the printer within  
a few days. I would appreciate it if you would kindly  
let me know if you have any objections to having the  
book copyrighted; if not, will you please advise me as  
to whether any of the material contained therein has  
already been copyrighted.

I am in receipt of the tokens and I will see that  
they are photographed very shortly.

Very truly yours,

Curator

H./E

TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
CLIFFORD BREWSTER UPTON  
WILLIAM E. BRECKENRIDGE

May 6, 1921

Howland Wood, Esq.,  
Curator of the American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

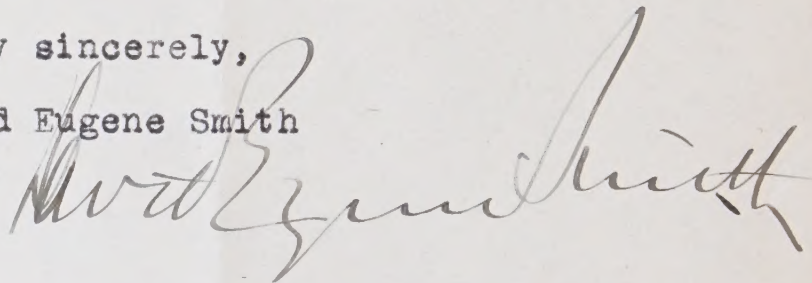
My dear Mr. Wood:

There is no objection to having the book  
copyrighted. None of the material therein contained  
has been copyrighted and none of it is of a nature  
that prohibits copyright.

I am glad to know that you are proceeding  
with the printing, and I shall be glad to see that  
the proof is read with care.

Yours very sincerely,

David Eugene Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David Eugene Smith", written in dark ink.

May 19th, 1921

Dr. David Eugene Smith  
Teachers College  
Columbia University  
New York City

Dear Professor Smith:

Your coins are being returned to you  
today by registered mail. I trust the  
package will reach you promptly.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

19th November, 1928

Dr. David Eugene Smith,  
Teachers College,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Smith:

At the request of Mr. Gallatin, I am sending you two of the recent monographs that you may have a specimen of the change of form since printing your contribution to this series.

We are delighted that you will consider publishing a catalogue of your medals of portraits of mathematicians.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

DAVID EUGENE SMITH  
501 WEST 120TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

November 21, 1928

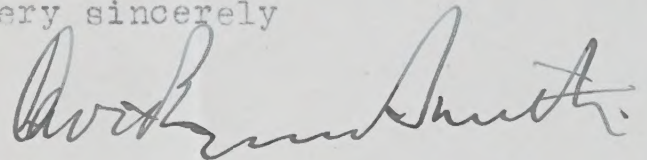
Sydney P. Noe, Esq.,  
The American Numismatic Society  
Broadway and 155th Street  
New York City

Dear Mr. Noe

It was very kind of you to send the recent monographs. I shall take much pleasure in reading them, as I always do in reading what your Society sends out.

With respect to the medals of portraits of mathematicians, I hope to get some time to take this up before I leave for Europe in March.

Yours very sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Eugene Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being particularly prominent and stylized.